

Message Text

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11

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 PM-09 SS-15 L-03 TRSE-00 OMB-01 EB-11

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 PRS-01 ACDA-19 GAC-01

SAJ-01 RSR-01 /099 W

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FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5541

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

SECDEF

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 2026

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, UK, SP

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE HARRIER PURCHASE

REF: LONDON 4342

1. LONDON A-212 CITES OPPOSITION OF SPANISH EMBASSY IN LONDON TO GOS PURCHASE OF HARRIERS. IN ADDITION, THERE HAS BEEN RESISTANCE BY SPANISH AIR FORCE TO SPANISH NAVY INITIATIVE TO BREAK WITH PRECEDENT AND ACQUIRE FIXED WING AIRCRAFT.

2. FROM OUTSET, HOWEVER, WE HAVE BEEN MINDFUL OF DANGER OF INVOLVEMENT IN INTERNAL QUARREL. ACCORDINGLY, OUR APPROACH HAS BEEN TO PROVIDE SPANISH NAVY INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE ONLY ON REQUEST AND AVOID HARD SELL OR ANY OTHER ACTION THAT SPANISH AIR FORCE MIGHT CONSTRUE AS DIRECT US ENCOURAGEMENT TO NAVY TO DEVELOP COMBAT AIR ARM. GOS INTEREST IN HARRIERS WAS ORIGINALLY STIMULATED NOT BY US, BUT BY UK, WHICH DEMONSTRATED AIRCRAFT IN NOVEMBER FROM DECK OF SPANISH HELO CARRIER DEDALO. FOREIGN MINISTRY SUBSEQUENTLY IMPOSED CONDITION THAT PLANES COULD NOT BE BOUGHT FROM UK.

3. SPANISH NAVY WILL NOT BE ABLE TO CLOSE DEAL WITHOUT FULL PURCHASE AUTHORITY, WHICH MUST BE PROPERLY CONSIDERED IN CONFIDENTIAL

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COUNCIL OF MINISTERS. VICE PRESIDENT CARRERO BLANCO REPORTED TO HAVE PERSONALLY APPROVED PURCHASE. IF SPANISH NAVY HAS PURCHASE AUTHORITY -- AS IT APPEARS THEY HAVE -- WE SHOULD REGARD IT AS SUFFICIENT EVIDENCE OF APPROVAL BY OF SPANISH GOVERNMENT. WE ALSO UNDERSTAND THAT STATE AND DOD, F COUNTRY TO THE OTHER DO SO THROUGH THE RESPECTIVE COUNTRIES' EMPLOYMENT AGENCIES. END SUMMARY.

1. FINDING A WAY TO GAIN CONTROL OVER THE MIGRATION OF LABOR FROM FINLAND TO SWEDEN HAS LONG BEEN A MAJOR POLITICAL CONCERN OF THE FINNISH GOVERNMENT. WHEN MAX JAKOBSON BEGAN HIS ASSIGNMENT AS AMBASSADOR TO SWEDEN LAST AUGUST RESOLUTION OF THE ISSUE WAS DESCRIBED AS ONE OF HIS PRIORITY TASKS. WHEN PRIME MINISTER SORSA TALKED WITH SWEDEN' S PRIME MINISTER PALME IN FEBRUARY AGREEMENT WAS REACHED IN PRINCIPLE, BUT A NUMBER OF PROBLEMS REMAINED TO BE WORKED OUT.

2. CHIEF AMONG THESE PROBLEMS WAS THE RESISTANCE OF THE SWEDISH EMPLOYERS. CONTINUED HIGH UNEMPLOYMENT IN SWEDEN AND THE SWEDISH GOVERNMENT' S RECENT DECISION TO RESTRICT NON- NORDIC IMMIGRATION (REFTEL) CONTRIBUTED TO OVERCOMING THIS RESISTANCE. AN ADDITIONAL COMPLICATION, FINALLY RESOLVED TO THE SATISFACTION OF ALL PARTIES, WAS THE NECESSITY TO MAKE THE AGREEMENT CONFORM WITH THE SCANDINAVIAN FREE LABOR MARKET.

3. THE AGREEMENT SETS UP PROCEDURES TO ENSURE THAT WORKERS FROM ONE COUNTRY, SEEKING EMPLOYMENT IN THE OTHER, WILL BE OBLIGED TO CONTACT THE STATE EMPLOYMENT AGENCY OF THEIR COUNTRY OF ORIGIN BEFORE THEIR JOB APPLICATIONS ARE APPROVED. THE EMPLOYMENT AGENCIES HOPE TO CURB MIGRATION BY GIVING THE PROSPECTIVE MIGRANT INFORMATION ON JOB OPPORTUNITIES IN HIS OWN COUNTRY OF WHICH HE MAY NOT BE AWARE AND BY GIVING HIM COMPLETE INFORMATION ON COMPARATIVE WORKING CONDITIONS. THE AGREEMENT FURTHER PROVIDES THAT EMPLOYERS MAY NOT RECRUIT OR ADVERTISE FOR LABOR IN THE OTHER COUNTRY.

5. THE SIGNATORIES OF THE AGREEMENT WERE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE FINNISH EMPLOYERS' FEDERATION (STK), SWEDISH EMPLOYERS' FEDERATION (SAF), THE FINNISH FEDERATION OF LABOR (SAK) AND THE SWEDISH LABOR FEDERATION (LO), AS WELL AS LABOR MINISTRY OFFICIALS FOR BOTH COUNTRIES. A WORKING GROUP REPRESENTING THESE ORGANIZATIONS WILL MEET AT THE END OF MAY TO DEVELOP PRO-

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CEDURES FOR ITS IMPLEMENTATION ON JULY 1. IT IS ALSO ENVISAGED THAT THIS GROUP WILL REMAIN IN EXISTENCE TO OVERSEE THE FUNCTIONING OF THE AGREEMENT IN PRACTICE.

5. COMMENT. IT REMAINS TO BE SEEN WHETHER THE AGREEMENT WILL MEET THE FINNS' EXPECTATIONS. IT PROVIDES A SMALL BOOST TO THE SORSA GOVERNMENT BUT MANY OF THE REAL CAUSES OF EMIGRATION REMAIN TO BE SOLVED (INADEQUATE HOUSING IN HIGH EMPLOYMENT AREAS) OR ALLEVIATED BY THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE FINNISH ECONOMY (THE WAGE DIFFERENTIAL BETWEEN FINLAND AND SWEDEN). AS FAR AS THE SWEDES ARE CONCERNED THE AGREEMENT IS CONSISTENT WITH THEIR PRESENT POLICY OF TIGHTENING UP ON IMMIGRATION GENERALLY. AN ECONOMIC UPTURN IN SWEDEN, HOWEVER, WOULD PUT PRESSURE ON THE SWEDISH EMPLOYERS WHOSE COOPERATION IN REPORTING FINNS APPLYING FOR JOBS IS ESSENTIAL TO MAKE THE AGREEMENT WORK.

6. COMPLETE TEXT OF AGREEMENT WILL FOLLOW BY AIRGRAM.
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